

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Amend claims 1-7 and add new claims 8-20 as shown in the following listing of claims, which replaces all previous versions and listings of claims.

1. (currently amended) A printer for a thermally sensitive ~~adhering~~ adhesive sheet, the printer comprising:

a printing apparatus comprising printing means for printing during a printing operation on a printable surface layer of a thermally sensitive adhesive ~~adhering~~ sheet having a thermally sensitive adhesive layer formed on a surface opposite to the printable surface, constituted by respectively forming a printable layer on one face of a sheet-like base member and a thermally sensitive adhering agent layer on other face thereof and first transporting means for transporting the thermally sensitive ~~adhering~~ adhesive sheet in a predetermined direction;

a cutter apparatus ~~provided at a post stage of the printing apparatus~~ for cutting the thermally sensitive ~~adhering~~ adhesive sheet by a predetermined length after a printing operation by the printing means;

a thermally activating apparatus comprising heating means disposed at a preselected distance from ~~arranged at a predetermined interval from a post stage of the cutter~~ apparatus for heating the thermally sensitive ~~adhering agent~~

adhesive layer of the thermally sensitive adhesive sheet,  
and second transporting means for transporting the thermally  
sensitive ~~adhering~~ adhesive sheet in the predetermined  
direction; and

third transporting means for transporting the  
thermally sensitive ~~adhering~~ adhesive sheet in the  
predetermined direction between the cutter apparatus and the  
thermally activating ~~apparatus~~. apparatus; and

control means for independently controlling the  
first and second transporting means to thereby independently  
control a transporting speed of the thermally sensitive  
adhesive sheet during transportation thereof by the first and  
second transporting means.

2. (currently amended) The A printer for a  
thermally sensitive ~~adhering sheet according to Claim 1,~~  
~~wherein adhesive sheet according to claim 1; wherein~~ the third  
transporting means comprises at least one discharge roller, is  
~~one or two or more of discharge rollers connected to a drive~~  
~~mechanism, the thermally sensitive adhering sheet is~~  
~~sandwiched between the discharge roller and a pressing member~~  
for pressing and the thermally sensitive ~~adhering~~ adhesive  
sheet against the discharge roller when the thermally  
sensitive adhesive sheet is transported between the pressing  
member and the discharge roller, and a drive mechanism for  
rotationally driving the discharge roller while the pressing

member presses the thermally sensitive adhesive sheet to transport the thermally sensitive adhesive sheet is transported in the predetermined direction. by driving to rotate the discharge roller.

3. (currently amended) The A printer for a thermally sensitive ~~adhering sheet according to Claim 2,~~ wherein adhesive sheet according to claim 2; wherein the first transporting means comprises the drive mechanism of the third transporting means for transporting the thermally sensitive adhesive sheet in the predetermined direction. the discharge roller is constituted to be connected to the drive mechanism the same as a drive mechanism of the first transporting means and to be able to move cooperatively with the first transporting means.

4. (currently amended) The A printer for a thermally sensitive ~~adhering sheet according to Claim 2,~~ wherein adhesive sheet according to claim 2; wherein the discharge roller is connected to the drive mechanism via a one way one-way clutch.

5. (currently amended) The A printer for a thermally sensitive ~~adhering sheet according to Claim 2,~~ wherein adhesive sheet according to claim 2; wherein the discharge roller is configured constituted to be partially brought into contact with the pressing member in a state in

which the thermally sensitive adhesive sheet is not transported between the pressing member and the discharge roller. ~~sheet is not inserted.~~

6. (currently amended) The A printer for a thermally sensitive ~~adhering sheet according to Claim 2,~~ wherein adhesive sheet according to claim 2; further comprising moving means for moving the discharge roller and the pressing member toward each other to press the thermally sensitive adhesive sheet against the discharge roller and away from each other to release the thermally sensitive adhesive sheet from the discharge roller. ~~are constituted to be able to be proximate to each other and remote from each other.~~

7. (currently amended) The A printer for a thermally sensitive adhesive sheet according to claim 2; ~~wherein adhering sheet according to Claim 2,~~ wherein the pressing member comprises is an auxiliary roller having outer peripheral portions for contacting outer peripheral portions ~~arranged such that portions of outer peripheries of the discharge roller when the thermally sensitive adhesive sheet is transported between the auxiliary roller and the discharge roller.~~ and the auxiliary roller are brought into contact with each other.

8. (new) A printer for a thermally sensitive adhesive sheet according to claim 1; wherein the first transporting means and the third transporting means comprise a first drive mechanism for transporting the thermally sensitive adhesive sheet in the predetermined direction.

9. (new) A printer for a thermally sensitive adhesive sheet according to claim 8; wherein the first transporting means comprises a platen roller and the second transporting means comprises a discharge roller; and wherein the drive mechanism comprises a first stepping motor for rotationally driving the platen roller and the discharge roller.

10. (new) A printer for a thermally sensitive adhesive sheet according to claim 9; wherein the discharge roller is connected to the drive mechanism via a one-way clutch.

11. (new) A printer for a thermally sensitive adhesive sheet according to claim 9; wherein the second transporting means comprises a platen roller and a second drive mechanism having a second stepping motor for rotationally driving the platen roller of the second transporting means.

12. (new) A printer for a thermally sensitive adhesive sheet according to claim 11; wherein the control means includes means for independently controlling a rotational speed of each of the first and second stepping motors.

13. (new) A printer comprising:

a printing unit for printing during a printing operation on a printable surface of a thermally sensitive adhesive sheet having a thermally sensitive adhesive layer formed on a surface opposite to the printable surface;

a first transporting mechanism for transporting the thermally sensitive adhesive sheet through the printing unit;

a thermally activating unit for heating the thermally sensitive adhesive layer of the thermally sensitive adhesive sheet;

a second transporting mechanism for transporting the thermally sensitive adhesive sheet through the thermally activating unit;

a third transporting mechanism for transporting the thermally sensitive adhesive sheet from the printing unit to the thermally activating unit; and

control means for controlling the first and third transporting mechanisms as a transporting unit to transport the thermally sensitive adhesive sheet at a preselected speed, and for independently controlling the transporting unit and the second transporting mechanism to thereby independently

control the preselected speed and a transporting speed of the thermally sensitive adhesive sheet during transportation thereof by transporting unit and the second transporting mechanism.

14. (new) A printer according to claim 13; wherein each of the first, second and third transporting mechanisms comprises at least one roller mounted for undergoing rotation to transport the thermally sensitive adhesive sheet.

15. (new) A printer according to claim 14; wherein the first and third transporting mechanisms further comprise a first drive mechanism for rotationally driving the roller of each of the first and third transporting mechanisms; and wherein the second transporting mechanism further comprises a second drive mechanism for driving the roller of the second transporting mechanism.

16. (new) A printer according to claim 15; wherein the first and second drive mechanisms comprise first and second stepping motors, respectively; and wherein the control means includes means for independently controlling a rotational speed of each of the first and second stepping motors.

17. (new) A printer according to claim 15; wherein the roller of the third transporting mechanism is connected to the first drive mechanism via a one-way clutch.

18. (new) A printer according to claim 15; wherein the second transporting mechanism further comprises a pair of drawing rollers driven by the second drive mechanism for drawing the thermally sensitive adhesive sheet toward the roller of the second transporting mechanism.

19. (new) A printer according to claim 14; wherein the third transporting mechanism further comprises an auxiliary roller mounted for undergoing rotation and for contacting the roller of the third transporting mechanism to transport the thermally sensitive adhesive sheet during rotation of the roller and auxiliary roller of the third transporting mechanism.

20. (new) A printer according to claim 13; further comprising a cutter apparatus for cutting the thermally sensitive adhesive sheet after a printing operation by the printing unit.